

California Public Lands

BLM



Public Lands USA: Use, Share, Appreciate



2006

From the State Director



As I reflect upon the progress made during this past year on managing your public lands in California, two highlights come to mind: planning and partnerships.

This emphasis became evident during my recent visits to

BLM's 16 field offices in the State, a goal I set after five years as State Director. I met with almost all of our 900 employees statewide who care for the 15.2 million acres in California (and another 1.5 million in northwest Nevada).

Not only did the trips impress upon me the incredible diversity of the public lands and resources in California, but I also heard from our employees how proud they were of the many partnerships we enjoy and the tremendous support we have received from the public in our recent planning efforts.

As a career Federal land manager, I firmly believe the most important legacy we leave to the next generation are the land use plans that will guide protection and use of the public lands for the next 15-20 years. Here in California, BLM has more than two dozen plans covering the State, with the large majority updated within the last few years or targeted for completion in the next year or two. These plans depend upon intensive public involvement, ranging from the first identification of issues or "scoping," through comments and hearings on the draft, and protest opportunities on the proposed plan, all the way through to the final plan. These plans are major accomplishments, and

they truly provide us a "vision" for managing these public resources into the future.

But even with these plans, BLM could not manage the public lands in such a complex state as California, without the direct involvement and shared responsibility of our many and varied partners, both in the public and private sectors.

We enjoy hundreds of such partnerships in California, ranging from other Federal and State agencies and local governments, to national or regional organizations, all the way down to small local community groups. These partnerships are invaluable assets to BLM and we take them very seriously.

While these partnerships have long been the hallmark of BLM's approach to managing public lands in California, we are extremely fortunate to have the strong support of the U.S. Department of the Interior and the BLM nationally in this management approach, known as Cooperative Conservation.

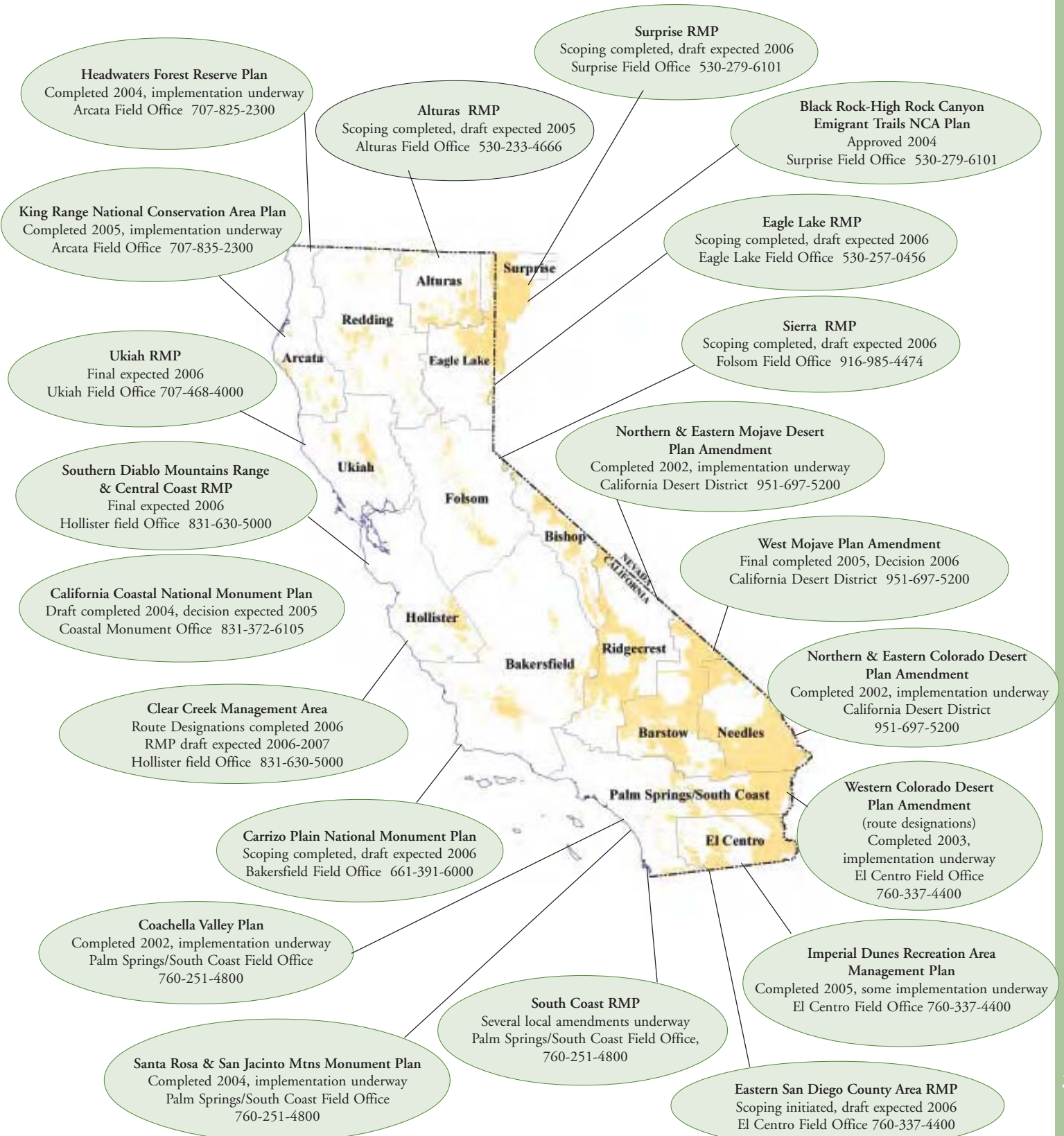
Cooperative Conservation seeks to strengthen these existing partnerships and promote citizen stewardship of the public lands and resources. That's a perfect fit for us here in California and we will continue to put these goals in action on-the-ground.

"...the most important legacy we leave to the next generation are the land use plans that will guide protection and use of the public lands..."

Mike Pool, California State Director

Planning

Over the last several years, BLM-California has initiated or completed 20 major planning efforts statewide. Each of these efforts offers numerous opportunities for public involvement. The status of these plans statewide and the office to contact for further information is shown below. (BLM public lands are shown in yellow.)



Partners

BLM's ability to manage the public lands in California is based, to a large degree, on the willingness of a diverse array of partners willing to not only help, but take an active role in public land management. At the Federal, State, and county levels, from national organizations to neighborhood groups, and together with individuals right next door to across the country, these partnerships have been forged among those who care about the future of their

Bighorn Institute

Of the more than 300 threatened or endangered species in California, none have captured the public's imagination more than the majestic Peninsular bighorn sheep. This



Bighorn Institute's Jim DeForge releases a Peninsular bighorn sheep.

makes the partnership between BLM and the Bighorn Institute, based in Palm Desert, one of the most visible in the State.

BLM transferred the 300 acres the Institute sits on under the Recreation and

Public Purposes Act, giving the private group headed by executive director Jim DeForge a home since 1984.

Founded in 1982, the Institute is an independent nonprofit almost completely privately funded through the efforts of its Board of Directors and Honorary Chairman, former President Gerald R. Ford. Through its efforts with State and Federal wildlife agencies, the sheep have rebounded from a low population of 280 animals to 700 animals, nearly all in the Santa Rosa/San Jacinto Mountains National Monument.

United Desert Gateway

In a unique partnership, BLM and the Chambers of Commerce for the cities of El Centro, Brawley, and Yuma, AZ joined forces to form the United Desert Gateway (UDG). The UDG is aimed at developing support, improving communication and broadening cooperation with all interests associated with the Imperial Sand Dunes Recreation Area and other public lands in the region.

Accomplishments include a litter education campaign, a billboard safety program, a Dune Smart brochure, a tourism monitoring plan, development of a volunteer program that draws from the OHV community, local gateway communities, and other interested parties, and a variety of public education and outreach initiatives.

Student Conservation Association

The future of public land management lies in the hands of the next generation. That's why BLM-California so highly values its strong partnership with the Student Conservation Association (SCA). SCA volunteers spend more than 1.6 million hours each year nationwide conserving our nation's natural spaces.

Much of the work to date on public lands in California has been in the California Desert, focusing on restoration of Wilderness Areas. This project, called WildCorps, accomplished route restoration work using funding provided by the CA Department of Parks and Recreation's Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division. Plans are underway to expand into monitoring desert water sources important to wildlife.



SCA Interns help restore public lands in the California Desert.

SCA interns gain extensive experience in conservation and land management programs. In return, BLM receives quality labor at nearly half the cost of regular government rates from an enthusiastic and passionate group of individuals.



BLM Director Kathleen Clarke and UDG Director Nicole Gilles help sign the UDG agreement.

Payments in Lieu of Taxes

public lands. BLM is privileged to have such active and engaged constituencies, and just a few examples of these important partnerships, estimated at several hundred state-wide, are described below.

“...partnerships have been forged among those who care about the future of their public lands.”

California Department of Boating and Waterways

The California Department of Boating and Waterways works closely with BLM to improve river access for whitewater boating while promoting the safe use of California waterways.

This partnership started in 1994 with a grant to BLM to improve the launch facilities at Keyesville South on the Lower Kern River. Since then, it has expanded to other parts of the State for portage and access improvements, as well as sanitary facilities, better parking, and improved river access as part of the program.



A boat slide project, under construction at the Lower Kern River.

One of the larger cooperative projects involved the Delonegha Boat Access between Bakersfield and Lake Isabella. Ammon and the Department worked with BLM and other agencies to construct a new put-in/take-out at a location where boaters had been trying for 20 years to improve river access. A project on the Lower Kern River near Lake Isabella is scheduled for completion later this year.

Another part of the partnership is to provide detailed maps for California waterways, including the Merced River, the Kern River, the American River, and the Sacramento River, all involving BLM.

COUNTY	BLM ACRES	PAYMENT
Alameda	217	\$1,259
Alpine	12,962	\$83,315
Amador	9,045	\$17,271
Butte	16,832	\$30,128
Calaveras	35,386	\$67,416
Colusa	32,424	\$62,642
Contra Costa	69	\$3,251
Del Norte	195	\$91,303
El Dorado	19,033	\$111,981
Fresno	154,366	\$981,096
Glenn	5,882	\$87,030
Humboldt	76,018	\$100,666
Imperial	1,260,135	\$250,095
Inyo	1,789,326	\$984,650
Kern	700,317	\$1,363,457
Kings	9,800	\$13,631
Lake	126,174	\$75,784
Lassen	1,008,892	\$442,107
Los Angeles	13,177	\$730,037
Madera	3,453	\$346,782
Marin	0	\$134,459
Mariposa	72,580	\$494,428
Mendocino	119,605	\$231,700
Merced	4,175	\$50,654
Modoc	272,383	\$343,028
Mono	557,114	\$552,766
Monterey	30,154	\$474,418
Napa	31,737	\$85,740
Nevada	18,989	\$39,954
Orange	1	\$67,175
Placer	20,194	\$77,643
Plumas	10,526	\$231,906
Riverside	1,549,320	\$1,879,979
Sacramento	4,497	\$13,722
San Benito	87,147	\$142,037
San Bernardino	6,174,677	\$1,782,856
San Diego	180,166	\$629,939
San Francisco	0	\$13,803
San Joaquin	603	\$3,109
San Luis Obispo	240,163	\$606,647
San Mateo	0	\$16,793
Santa Barbara	7,462	\$996,778
Santa Clara	1,735	\$2,725
Santa Cruz	12	\$0
Shasta	129,544	\$194,775
Sierra	1,921	\$89,681
Siskiyou	84,923	\$511,878
Solano	2,157	\$9,963
Sonoma	7,158	\$4,254
Stanislaus	471	\$4,685
Sutter	2	\$0
Tehama	48,531	\$88,470
Trinity	78,419	\$305,011
Tulare	119,837	\$1,489,375
Tuolumne	44,894	\$730,109
Ventura	1,928	\$803,891
Yolo	29,692	\$44,538
Yuba	1,582	\$9,385
TOTAL	15,208,002	\$19,002,175

Payments based on BLM acres and other Federal acres, not shown

Public Land Programs

Wild Horse and Burro Adoptions: Leader among 12 western states with over 1,000 animals adopted annually; 200 trained volunteers assisting with adoptions, gentling horses, providing foster homes; and 2,000 compliance inspections annually.

Fire/Fuels Reduction: 37 pre-fire projects totaling \$2.1 million, which assisted 370 “Communities at Risk” in the Wildland Urban Interface.

Land Use Plans: 26 RMPs or major amendments completed or soon to be completed; approximately 16.5 million acres.

Threatened and Endangered Species: 309 federally listed, 235 state-listed species in California, and 66 rare plants.

Oil & Gas: Fourth largest BLM onshore oil producer; 4,302 producing wells on 296 leases; \$31 million in royalties.

Geothermal: 6 fields supply steam to 28 power plants; \$12 million in royalties and energy for 500,000 people.

Wind Energy: 3,000 wind turbines producing 258 megawatts; \$500,000 in royalties; 22 right-of-ways on 2,800 acres.

Biomass Program: Western juniper initiative underway in Alturas, Surprise, and Eagle Lake Field Offices; 13,000 megawatt hours of electricity produced annually from BLM fuels.

Minerals Materials: First in contract value (\$40 million); 150 active mineral sale contracts; over a million tons of aggregate for infrastructure and construction.

Solid Leaseables: 26 leases; 2.5 million tons of products; \$5 million annual royalties.

Mining Law: Fifth largest producer of gold in U.S.; three producing mines; second largest number of mining claims.

Abandoned Mines: 13,000 identified on BLM lands to be addressed; 300 sites evaluated, 5 sites with water-quality problems remediated, 102 physically hazardous sites remediated.

Law Enforcement: Over 180,000 marijuana plants eradicated; 11 law enforcement agreements and 30 county, 6 state, and 11 Federal MOUs.

Recreation Partnerships: 288 agreements in California - most in the BLM.

Visitor Use Days: More than 9.5 million visits and 16 million visitor days annually.

Cadastral Survey: Survey over 450 miles of boundary lines annually for multiple Federal agencies

Invasive Weeds: Conduct hundreds of weed inventories, treatments, and evaluations annually.

Archaeology/Cultural: Conduct studies and protect thousands of sites. Coordinate with 108 Tribes in California representing 628,000 Native American Indians.

Livestock Grazing: 572 permittees lease 699 allotments on 8.1 million acres.



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Public Land Facts



- 15.2 million acres of public lands in California, 1.6 million in northwestern Nevada
- 44 million acres subsurface mineral estate underlying federal surface land, 2.5 million acres underlying private lands, and 592,000 acres underlying Native American Tribal lands
- Three National Conservation Areas: the California Desert, King Range, and Black Rock Desert-High Rock Canyon
- Three National Monuments: the Santa Rosa/San Jacinto Mountains, Carrizo Plain, California Coastal
- One Forest Reserve: Headwaters
- 145 Areas of Critical Environmental Concern; 16 proposed Areas of Critical Environmental Concern
- 71 miles of public land along six national wild and scenic rivers
- 79 wilderness areas covering 3.7 million acres, 79 wilderness study areas covering 1.4 million acres
- 502 miles of Scenic & Historic Trails
- 13.5 million barrels of oil produced annually
- 3.3 billion cubic feet of natural gas produced annually
- \$31 million in receipts annually
- 58,000 ounces of gold produced annually
- 525,000 animal unit months of forage for livestock
- 6,200 rights-of-way for roads and powerlines
- 11 million acres available for open and limited off-road vehicle recreation
- Volunteers contribute 212,000 hours annually
- Home to 2,400 wild horses/1,200 burros
- 1.5 million board feet of timber harvested annually
- 800 wildlife species in California
- 22,000 mining claims
- Fiscal Year 2005 Budget: \$141.9 million

Bureau of Land Management California Jurisdiction

California State Office

2800 Cottage Way, Suite W-1834, Sacramento, CA 95825-1886

Information Access Center 916/978-4400

